



NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

# ESPRESSO

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*Where Tomorrow Begins*

## ALL ABOUT VALENTINE'S DAY...

**F**ach year, it is on the 14th of February that people celebrate Valentine's Day, which is only second to Christmas when greeting cards are sold in masses and people prefer exhibiting their love to someone special. Almost one billion Valentine's Day cards are sent across every year all through the world. Men end up spending almost double the volume of what total women spend on this day and the money spent goes into buying chocolates, diamonds, meals, flowers and various other gifts that people like giving to their beloveds. The nationality that spends the most this day is people from Singapore and even Chinese too. The history behind this day being celebrated as the day of lovers relates Valentine, who was a priest, who dared to go against the laws that had been laid down by Claudius, the Roman Emperor. All the eligible bachelors had been commanded to remain unmarried. The Emperor would believe that married men could not really make as able soldiers. Once, Valentine was caught whilst he was getting a couple married and was thereafter imprisoned and punished to death. It is learnt that he had fallen in love with the daughter of the jailer and also wrote letters to her. I am sure most of you didn't know that !

### **VALENTINE'S THE N.I.S WAY!**

We celebrated the day with a host of activities all aimed at making the day meaningful. It was a mufti day and students and staff turned up in school looking very colorful. Of course the color red carried the day. The Year 12s , who organized the event, had a very busy day selling flowers, delivering cards and



Valentines day

"...VALENTINE'S  
2011 EDITION"

Continued from page 1

messages, selling chocolate ,candy and cakes. They even had a trampoline and a bouncing castle for the younger children. The highlight of the day was the dance off and the students enjoyed this very much.

## **BOOK WEEK**

Our annual Book Week was held during the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the term. The main purpose of this event was to try and encourage students to cultivate a reading culture. With the advent of computer technology we find that reading is no longer a priority as children and even adults are too busy face-booking, playing computer games or watching movies thus turning many of them into couch potatoes. Reading is an enriching experience and this cannot be over emphasized. With that in mind, our students were involved in many activities which included Inter- House Verse Recital Competition, essay and poetry writing, making of book marks and book covers and most importantly donation of books to our school library. As this is on going, you are still free to make your contributions!

## **NAIROBI ACADEMY VERSE RECITAL**

This took place on 12<sup>th</sup> of February and our school was represented by Ritual Khanna (U 14), Barbara Mukidza (U 16) and Fiona Nyangoma (U 18). In the Creative category we had Nannette Kilele ( U 16 ) and Fiona Nyagoma ( U18). Despite the fact that it was our 1<sup>st</sup> time there, the girls made a sterling performance . Competition was stiff , standards were high and the judges did not have an easy time making their final decision. Barbara Mukidza was declared the best performer of the day and came 1<sup>st</sup> in the U 16 category. Nannette who was the youngest participant got a tremendous applause from the audience after bravely reciting her piece entitled 'Health'. Fiona also did a great job and vowed to win the 1<sup>st</sup> position in her category next time around. Overall, N.I.S came 4<sup>th</sup> out of a total of 10 schools. Each one of these girls is a winner by virtue of participation. That's what counts. Congratulations to all of them and thank you to the parents for encouraging and supporting them.

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

### MSMUN

The 17th annual MSMUN conference kicked off on the 17th January and the delegates were all set to represent the NIS fraternity at the conference held at the UNON. Things could only get better! Besides having a great time, they did a splendid job. The delegation from LAOS led by Ritual Khanna as the ambassador, was able to bring home a best resolution. Thank you, to all the ambassadors for the good work done, together with all the delegates. It couldn't have been easy without your cooperation. Kudos! You made us proud.....



### EAMUN

The E.A. MUN conference was held from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> February. We had delegations from Swaziland, Fiji and Dominican Republic. The students looked radiant in their formal attire ready to tackle world issues and find solutions. The conference went well. Although we didn't manage to get a best resolution award (this being the first time not to get one since the school began), we managed to keep our banner high by taking the second position. I believe that come next year Matthew knows what to do to get the Terry Howard Award. The conference ended with a dance at Braeside School and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

## THE PREFECTS' LEADERSHIP COURSE

The Prefects' Leadership and Team Building Workshop on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> was an exciting learning experience for the prefects and the teachers who accompanied them. Despite not managing to access the intended venue, Fisherman's Camp in Naivasha ended up being quite adequate for the day's activities. Most of these aimed at bringing out the basics of a successful team and enhancing leadership qualities from each of the participants. The prefects were excited and amazed to discover how by working as a team they can tackle almost any task or problem assigned to them. We look forward to seeing a more active and organized prefects' body.



## ON CAREERS

The 1<sup>st</sup> half of the term saw us host our Careers Day on 31<sup>st</sup> January. The main objective of this event was to expose our students to the various careers available and what it takes to get into those lines and work successfully. With that in mind, we invited professionals from different fields to talk to our students and the visiting students about the world of work. The fields covered included fashion design, law , engineering, banking, information technology, molecular - biology and accounting to name but a few. We would like to encourage students to attend these events as they will be better equipped to make informed decisions concerning their careers. Still on matters education, our Year 13's attended two fairs this term, the Canadian and the UK Uni Fairs.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PARENT-TEACHER CONSULTATION DATES:

23<sup>rd</sup> Feb – **Middle School – Year 5 -9**

25<sup>th</sup> Feb – **Australian University Fair from 11am-5pm at N.I.S**

2<sup>nd</sup> March – **Year 10**

9<sup>th</sup> March- **Year 12 & 13**

18th-19th March - **Musical-Dream Girls**

Watch out for . . . (*drum roll*) . . . our very own musical play . . . **DREAM GIRLS** showing on **18th and 19th March** at the **LOUISE LEAKEY AUDITORIUM** (adjacent to the National Museum) . **This is a must watch!** All parents and students are requested to attend.

# ALL MATTERS SPORTS.

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This term has been all about Boys' basketball, Girls' football, a peripheral swim and a spattering of hockey for both boys and girls. A few friendlies, league games, tournaments and a gala or two, have punctuated the calendar with mixed results in the girls events, one way traffic in the boys basketball, a light at the end of the tunnel in things aquatic and hockey lurking close by.

Rugby 7s is at it's development stage and the participants are going through the initial preliminaries i.e. learning the rules and basics.....no tackling or contact yet!

## **Results:**

**Boys' Basketball-** Played 6 won 6. Played 2 tournaments, ISK (won) and Buruburu (runners up)

**Girls' Football-** Played 6; won 3, drew 1, lost 2, won Rosslyn soccer tournament

**Boys' Hockey** - Played 3; lost 2, won 1 beating Oshwal

**Swimming** - Edward Ilako, Alesa Ilako, Juhi Dawoodia, Mary Kilele, Charlene Adede have posted noteworthy results in the galas they attended which varied from "A" to "AAA" where Edward made third overall in the meet after swimming only 5 events.

As the term wanes and fixtures continue, being part of our calendar watch this space for a more comprehensive account of the action.



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P.O. Box 66831 - 00800,  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: 020-2154672, Fax: 4348878  
Email: [info@nis.ac.ke](mailto:info@nis.ac.ke)

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[www.nis.ac.ke](http://www.nis.ac.ke)



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